

Cooperstown, North Dakota
September 25, 1890

Dear Brother Olaf,

I will send you a few lines as an answer to the letter I received from you a few days ago. Glad to hear that you are well and feeling fine. We are all well and working hard.

We got through with the threshing Friday. It was a German that did the threshing for us. His name was Ed Zimorich. We did not get as good a crop as we expected. We expected to get 400 bushels of wheat, but we didn't get more than 350; 340 bushels of oats, and 115 of barley. They were going to furnish everything, but they didn't have any cook car, so we had to give them the board, which they got for 20¢ a meal. They had three meals a day. They were threshing for 10, 7, and 8 cents per bushel.

None of the Swedes have threshed any yet. Sundberg and Jonas Person didn't get a machine as they had expected.

I see you are beginning to get tired of farming. So are we. It wouldn't be so bad if a person wasn't owing anything. If it wasn't for that, a person could manage to make a living.

W. L. Ruggals is back in Cooperstown. He says he doesn't like Washington, but likes Oregon pretty well.--It's been court this week. I didn't hear how it turned out with H. Fenner.

I notice by your letter that the Indians have been coming by the hundreds up the river. Some have been going past here, but not by the hundreds. We have no river for them to follow, probably that's why.

I have nothing more of importance to write about so I will close for this time.

With greetings from all of us.

Your brother,
Esper Johnson

P. S.--Have been to town today with a load of wheat or 18 sacks. It was twenty-nine bushels and he docked 7 pounds on the bushel. I sold it to Cooper.

Note:

This letter is written by Esper Johnson of Cooperstown, North Dakota to Olaf Johnson, who, at that time was farming in Washington.